

May 14, 1975

CLERK: Read Schmit motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I move the bill be returned for the amendment which was just described by the Clerk. The amendment provides that the fee shall be charged the Natural Resource District for the publication of the financial statement shall not exceed that which is charged by the County Boards which at this time is three-fourths of the legal rate. This therefore makes it about 18¢ a line and I move the bill be returned for the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Question of Senator Schmit please. Do you have information Senator Schmit to indicate the various charges have not been in line with what the statute calls for?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Of course Mr. President, Senator Dickinson there is no provision at the present time in the bill for the establishment of a specific rate. Mr. Lee Orton of the State Natural Resource District Association felt that this would substantially lower the cost of publication if we specify that it had to be at a specific amount. He originally asked me that it be at the legal rate. However upon doing a little research I find that the counties publish at three-fourths the legal rate and therefore I simply borrowed the language that is consistent with county publications and ask that it be added to this bill. At the present time of course they do not publish.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Is it your understanding Senator Schmit that according to the provisions of this bill now that more than one publication in the district will have to be used concurrently?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Dickinson, the language in the bill leads to the discretion of the Natural Resource Board and the determination as to what they feel is adequate coverage of the district. I specifically did not include any language that required publication in more than one newspaper if the board feels and there is no objection from the constituency that one is necessary, fine. If they feel that more is necessary well that is up to the discretion of the board and I think that it gives the maximum flexibility to the local board to determine what they feel is necessary to adequately cover their district.

SENATOR DICKINSON: You don't think that they will be unduly subjected to pressure from local newspapers to all want to carry it at one time. Some districts have many, many, weekly papers.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Dickinson I think that you know the Natural Resource Districts as well as I do and you know damn well that you can't pressure the Natural Resource Districts.